

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/507,215

Examiner

John M Winter

Applicant(s)

DOUVIKAS ET AL.

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the paper filed on September 7, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17-24, 43-61, 63-77 and 79-92.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

JAMES P. TRAMWELL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20040920

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Arnold M. de Guzman on October 13, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows: Claims 25-32 have been canceled

#### ***Status***

Claims 17-24, 43-61, 63-77, and 79-92 are pending

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 17-24, 43-61, 63-77, and 79-92 are allowed over the prior art record.

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. The closest prior art of record Wesinger Jr. (US Patent 5,778,367) teaches an Automated online information service and directory. Microsoft SQL Server 6.5 Unleashed, Chapter 12 taught restricting access to database elements. Kitagawa (JP0200221525 A) teaches a portable information storage medium.

What they fail to teach or suggest:

A. A computer-readable storage medium, comprising computer instructions for: providing an electronic business card file Web site user; allowing the creation of an electronic business card file by the user using said Web site, said creation comprising: allowing the user to enter information into a plurality of fields the electronic business card file; sending an authentication email to the user, wherein a reply to said authentication email is required to complete said creation; allowing the user to search for one or more records; allowing the user to view said records and to export electronic business card data from records private list of the user to a file readable by a contact management program, wherein another user associated with a record in the private list has extra privileges granted by the user; if said creation is completed, allowing the setting of privacy levels by the user for each said field, said setting comprising selecting one of more than two privacy levels so that the user controls data shown in each said field to another user based upon the selected privacy level for each said field, wherein the user can set the privacy level to Private, Semi-private, or Public for each particular field in the electronic business card file, wherein the electronic business card file Web site is implemented by use of two front-end web servers and a database server that is accessed by the two front-end web Servers.

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These distinct features renders claim 17 allowable.

Claims 18-24 are dependant on claim 17 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

B. A method of providing access a collection of electronic business cards, comprising the steps of: providing an electronic business card file Web site user; allowing the creation of an electronic business card file by the user using said Web site, said creation comprising: allowing the user to enter information into a plurality of fields the electronic business card file; sending an authentication email to the user, wherein a reply to said authentication email is required to complete said creation; allowing the user to search for one or more records; allowing the user to view said records and to export electronic business card data from records private list of the user to a file readable by a contact management program, wherein another user associated with a record in the private list has extra privileges granted by the user; if said creation is completed, allowing the setting of privacy levels by the user for each said field, said setting comprising selecting one of more than two privacy levels so that the user controls data shown in each said field to another user based upon the selected privacy level for each said field, wherein the user can set the privacy level to Private, Semi-private, or Public for each particular field in the electronic business card file; wherein the electronic business card file Web site is implemented by use of two front-end web servers and a database server that is accessed by the two front-end web servers.

These distinct features renders claim 43 allowable.

Claims 44-51 are dependant on claim 43 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

C. A computer system for providing access to a collection of electronic business cards, comprising computer instructions for: providing an electronic business card file Web site to a user; allowing the creation of an electronic business card file by the user using said Web site, said creation comprising: allowing the user to enter information into a plurality of fields in the electronic business card file; and sending an authentication email to the user, wherein a reply to said authentication email is required to complete said creation; allowing the user to search for one or more records; allowing the user to view said records and to export electronic business card data from records in a private list of the user to a file readable by a contact management program, wherein another user associated with record in the private list has extra privileges granted by the user; if said creation is completed, allowing the setting of privacy levels by the user for each said field, said setting comprising selecting one of more than two privacy levels so that the user controls data shown in each said field to another user based upon the selected privacy level for each said field, wherein the user can set the privacy level to Private, Semi-private, or Public for each particular field in the electronic business card file; wherein the electronic business card file Web site is implemented by use of two front-end web servers and a database server that accessed by the two front-end web Servers.

These distinct features renders claim 52 allowable.

Claims 53-60 are dependant on claim 52 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

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D. A method of providing access to a collection of electronic business cards, comprising the steps providing an electronic business card file Web site user; allowing the creation of an electronic business card file by the user using said Web site, said creation comprising allowing the user to enter information into a plurality of fields in the electronic business card file, and storing said information; and if said creation is completed, allowing the user to set one of a plurality of privacy levels for each of said plurality of fields in the electronic business card file, wherein the user can set the privacy level to a first privacy level or a second privacy level by selecting a first icon or second icon, respectively, corresponding field in the electronic business card file wherein the electronic business card file Web site is implemented by use of two front-end web servers and a database server that is accessed by the two front-end web servers.

These distinct features renders claim 61 allowable.

Claims 63-76 are dependant on claim 61 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

E. An apparatus for providing access a collection of electronic business cards, the apparatus comprising: an electronic business card file Web site accessible by a user; wherein the Web site is configured allow the user to create an electronic business card file by the user using said Web site, said creation comprising allowing the user to enter information into a plurality of fields in the electronic business card file, and storing said information; and if said creation is completed, allowing the user to set one of a plurality of privacy levels for each of said plurality of fields in the electronic business card file, wherein the user can set the privacy level to a first privacy level or a second privacy level by selecting a first icon or second icon, respectively, for corresponding field in the electronic business card file wherein the electronic business card file Web site is implemented by use of two front-end web servers and a database server that is accessed by the two front-end web servers.

These distinct features renders claim 77 allowable.

Claims 79-92 are dependant on claim 77 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John M Winter whose telephone number is (703) 305-3971. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6, 1st Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P Trammell can be reached on (703)305-9768. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

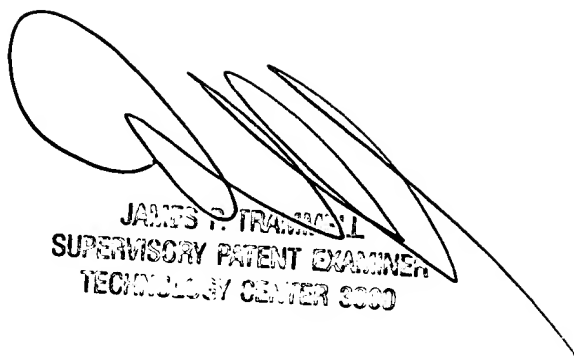
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JMW

September 19, 2004



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